Jn.20:26 Jesus cometh, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst and said, "Peace be unto you".

THEME:- Jesus comes thru shut doors.

INTRO:-The world shut its doors against Jesus.

1. No room at the inn.
2. Flight into Egypt.
3. Rejection in Jerusalem and Judea.
4. Rejection at Nazareth.
5. Final rejection. No room for Jesus anywhere.
6. No disciples ready for him.
7. The disciples' shut doors of misconceptions and partial knowledge.

I. The Disciples behind shut doors.

1. For fear of the Jews.

2. Our shut doors.
   a/ Church doors shut.
   b/ School doors shut.
   c/ The doors of the business world shut.
   d/ The doors of society and conversation shut.
   e/ The doors of investigation and criticism shut.

II. Thomas behind the shut door of Doubt.

Jn.20:25 "Except I shall see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

1. Wrong for Thomas to lay hold of one difficulty and condition his belief on the removal of that one thing.

2. Wrong for Thomas to doubt his trustworthy friends.

3. Thomas's heart was with Christ and he was willing enough to have the difficulty removed if possible.
   Paul was willing to put up with his thorn in the flesh.

July 17 A.M. 37.

III. Jesus appears thru all shut doors.

1. Thru all world barriers.
   a/ no room in the inn--is born in a manger.
   b/ rejected in Judea--went to Galilee
   c/ rejected at Nazareth--went to Capernaum.
   d/ rejected at Calvary--went to ~~Resurrection and~~ Victory over Death.

2. Thru Thomas's doubt.
   Specific difficulty not met, it was enough to be in the presence of Jesus.

3. Thru opposition to the Apostles and early Xns.

4. Thru the Church of Christ today.

5; Thru the social, industrial, and educational shut doors Jesus is coming.

CONCLUSION:-

1. We can expect to find shut doors.
   People and circumstances are always against us.

2. The X-Key of importuning Love will open all doors.

"Behold I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come into him and will sup with him and he with me."

Open-mindedness
Open heartedness
An open soul

X is coming, but we do not realize it
the deaf negro in the hut near Richmond - Lee-Grant
"Come in"